

**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065  
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November 2, 2020

### **RESOLUTION AIMS TO IMPROVE CITY REFUSE DROP-OFF SYSTEM**

In response to complaints from many O‘ahu residents, the Honolulu City Council is urging the City administration to make its refuse drop-off facilities more efficient and provide residents with another refuse drop-off facility in the primary urban center.

Currently, there are six convenience centers (Ewa, Laie, Wahiawa, Waianae, Waimanalo, and Waipahu), that are open from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily, allowing residents to drop off up to two loads per day of household waste including residential refuse, green waste (except for Wahiawa), automotive batteries, tires, compressed gas cylinders, and appliances.

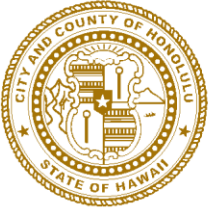
The City also operates transfer stations in Honolulu (Keehi), Kailua (Kapaa), and Haleiwa (Kawailoa) where waste from municipal solid waste or MSW collection trucks are consolidated into large transfer trailers and residents can, at no charge, dispose MSW and certain other waste materials during specified public hours.

Resolution 20-292, introduced by City Councilmember Brandon Elefante, lists several ways to address problems with the current refuse system and also calls for another refuse drop-off facility to better help those living in the urban core.

***“We need to improve the entire refuse drop-off system and ensure these facilities run more efficiently because they play a critical role in our efforts to reduce illegal dumping,” said Councilmember Elefante. “As a society, we can become more environmentally smart and sustainable by listening to those who are already doing the right thing - reducing, recycling and reusing waste.”***

Many users of the City’s refuse system identified several problems including extended wait times, lengthy vehicle queues, unavailability of collection bins, and traffic congestion. To make matters worse, while waiting in line to dump their refuse, users say they have no idea how long they’ll have to wait or if the collection bin will even be available.

Another problem is how urban center residents are currently being under-served because the Keehi Transfer Station, which is the only nearby facility open for public use, has reduced its public hours compared to other facilities and accepts a limited scope of residential waste. The closest neighboring facility, the Waipahu Convenience Center, operates at near capacity.



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Resolution 20-292 urges the City Administration to consider the following improvements:

- Develop a ticket or appointment based system for refuse drop-off,
- Provide real-time information regarding anticipated wait time and bin availability,
- Improve drop-off facility signage,
- Expand the range of accepted waste materials at drop-off facilities,
- Develop more efficient procedures to change out collection bins,
- Improve drop-off facility traffic flow via turnarounds and bypass lanes,
- Improve surveillance of commercial dumping at convenience centers,
- Expand householder drop-off hours at Keehi Transfer Station

Resolution 20-292 has been referred to the Public Infrastructure, Technology and Sustainability Committee.

For more information about this resolution or the Honolulu City Council, please inquire on the following web sites: <http://www.honolulucitycouncil.com/> or <http://www.honolulu.gov/council>

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